

Programme (last update 11/12/2025)

2025 IAP Triennial Conference and General Assembly Bridging Science, Policy and Society in an Era of Transformation

Cairo, Egypt, and Online, 8–11 December 2025

iap SCIENCE
HEALTH
POLICY
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أكاديمية البحث العلمي والتكنولوجيا
ACADEMY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
AND TECHNOLOGY

Programme Overview

Date	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
8 December	Side Events 1-4	Side Events 5-6* Opening Ceremony Plenary Speech & Plenary Session 1	Reception at hotel
9 December	IAP Triennial Conference	IAP Triennial Conference	Dinner at hotel
10 December	IAP Triennial Conference	IAP Triennial Conference	Special Dinner in Khan el Khalili, old Cairo
11 December	IAP General Assembly* Remarks by Prime Minister and Distinguished Guests	IAP General Assembly* Conclusion of IAP Programme	Closing Gala at Citadel of Cairo

*Attendance restrictions may apply. See detailed programme and session description.

Venue

The St. Regis New Capital, Cairo

New Administrative Capital, Cairo Suez Road, Cairo Governorate Desert, Cairo Governorate 4850601, Egypt

Monday, 8 December

08:00	Registration and Badge Collection (All Day)	
08:45 - 09:00	Opening Remarks Room: Chantelle ➔ Connect via Zoom Speakers • <u>Ourania Kosti</u>, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office • <u>Peter McGrath</u>, Coordinator, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office	
09:00 - 10:30	Side Event 1: For People, For Planet: Environmentally Sustainable Health Research Room: Chantelle ➔ Connect via Zoom <i>Organiser: Academy of Medical Sciences, United Kingdom</i> Moderator: <u>Shakila Thangaratinam</u> , Vice-President International, Academy of Medical Sciences, United Kingdom Rapporteur: <u>Sabina Caris</u> , Administrative Assistant, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office Speakers • <u>Julia Wilson</u>, Wellcome Sanger Institute, United Kingdom • <u>Ying Goh</u>, Public Health Executive, United States of America • <u>Tony Yang</u>, Professor in Health Policy, George Washington University, United States of America • <u>Jenny Rivers</u>, Director of Research & Development, Barts Health NHS Trust, United Kingdom • <u>Chris Hanley</u>, Director of Grand Challenge on Climate Change and Health, National Academy of Medicine, United States of America	Side Event 2: From Metrics to Meaning: How Reforming Research Assessment Drives Innovation, Impact, and Trust in Science Room: Florence ➔ Connect via Zoom <i>Organiser: The Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA), The European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA), and the Global Young Academy (GYA)</i> Moderators: • <u>Paweł Rowiński</u>, President of ALLEA • <u>Yensi Flores Bueso</u>, Co-Chair of the Global Young Academy Rapporteur: <u>Sophia Nordt</u> , Research Associate, IAP-DC Secretariat Office Speakers • <u>Giovanna Lima</u>, Programme Manager, DORA • <u>Mathijs Vleugel</u>, Chair, CoARA National Chapter, Germany • <u>Natalia Manola</u>, CEO, OpenAIRE AMKE • <u>Carina Geldhauser</u>, Executive Committee Member, Global Young Academy
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 - 12:30	Side Event 3: Science Diplomacy in the AI Era: Bridging Disciplines, Borders and Generations Room: Chantelle ➔ Connect via Zoom <i>Organiser: Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA)</i>	Side Event 4: IAP Young Affiliates Engagement Room: Florence ➔ Connect via Zoom <i>Organiser: IAP Secretariat</i> Moderator: <u>Sophia Nordt</u> , Research

Moderator: <u>Muzaffer Şeker</u>, President, Turkish Academy of Sciences, Türkiye Rapporteur: <u>Lucia Fanicchi</u>, Administrative Assistant, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office Speakers • <u>Zeliha Koçak Tufan</u>, Turkish Academy of Sciences, Türkiye • <u>Ahmet Nuri Yurdusev</u>, President, Association of Academies and Societies of Sciences in Asia • <u>Ercan Öztemel</u>, Member, TÜBA Artificial Intelligence Working Group, Türkiye • <u>Mürsel Doğrul</u>, President, Turkish Young Academy, Türkiye	Associate, IAP-DC Secretariat Office; <u>Peter McGrath</u>, Coordinator, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office Rapporteur: <u>Ourania Kosti</u>, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office Roundtable Discussants • <u>Josephine Pepper</u>, UK Young Academy, United Kingdom • <u>Clement Meier</u>, Swiss Young Academy, Switzerland • <u>Celestin Mutuyimana</u>, Swiss Young Academy, Switzerland • <u>David Lokhat</u>, South African Young Academy of Science, South Africa • <u>Kei Kano</u>, Young Academy of Japan, Japan • <u>Hema Sundara Siva Ramakrishna Matte</u>, Indian National Young Academy of Science, India • <u>Nishant Chakravorty</u>, Indian National Young Academy of Science, India [virtual participation] • <u>Beate Wagner</u>, Global Young Academy, Germany • <u>Franck Courbon</u>, UK Young Academy, United Kingdom • <u>Stephanie Burton</u>, IAP Board Member
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30	Side Event 5: IAP Horizon Scanning Exercise Room: Chantelle ➔ <u>Connect via Zoom</u> <i>Organiser: IAP Secretariat</i> Moderators: <u>Ourania Kosti</u>, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office; <u>Peter McGrath</u>, Coordinator, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office Rapporteur: <u>Ourania Kosti</u>, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office Proposed Projects • Bridging Academia and Diplomacy: Mapping Career Pathways and Advancing Global Discussion on Distributive Justice in Science and Innovation, <u>Haruka Sakamoto</u>, Young Academy of Japan, Japan [virtual participation] • Alternatives to meat are required for sustainable protein production, <u>Bert Rima</u>, EASAC [virtual participation] • Pastoralism and Grasslands, <u>Thomas Elmqvist</u>, EASAC • Medical Academies and Climate Health Action, <u>Chris Hanley</u>, U.S. National Academy of Medicine, United States of America

- Teenagers and social media, Peter McGrath, IAP

Proposed Statements

- STEM publishing, Mark Walport, Royal Society, United Kingdom
- Solar radiation management, Mark Walport, Royal Society, United Kingdom

15:30 – 16:30

Side Event 6: IAP Secretariat and Regional Networks Staff Meeting
Room: Chantelle

Organiser: IAP Secretariat

Moderators: Ourania Kosti, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office; Peter McGrath, Coordinator, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office

Rapporteur: Sophia Nordt, Research Associate, IAP-DC Secretariat Office

Attendance: By invitation only

16:30 – 17:00

Coffee Break

17:00 - 17:30

Conference Opening Ceremony
Room: Chantelle | ➡ [Connect via Zoom](#)

Speakers

- Peggy Hamburg, IAP Co-President
- Masresha Fetene, IAP Co-President
- Gina El-Feky, Acting President of Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, Egypt
- Vaughan Turekian, Executive Director, U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, United States of America
- Lidia Arthur Brito, Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO | video message
- Domenico De Martinis, scientific attaché, Embassy of Italy, Egypt

17:30 – 18:00

Plenary Speech: Bridging Science, Policy and Society in an Era of Transformation
Room: Chantelle | ➡ [Connect via Zoom](#)

Master of Ceremony: Peggy Hamburg, IAP Co-President

Speaker

Ismail Serageldin, Co-Chair, Board, Nizami Ganjavi International Center; Emeritus Librarian of Alexandria, Egypt; former Vice-President, World Bank

Rapporteur: Sophia Nordt, Research Associate, IAP-DC Secretariat Office

18:00 - 19:15

Plenary Session 1: Science Academies and Science Diplomacy in a Tumultuous World
Room: Chantelle | ➡ [Connect via Zoom](#)

Master of Ceremony: Peggy Hamburg, IAP Co-President

Moderator: Ian Wiggins, Director of International Affairs, The Royal Society, United Kingdom

Rapporteur: Sophia Nordt, Research Associate, IAP-DC Secretariat Office

Speakers

- Mark Walport, Foreign Secretary and Vice-President, The Royal Society, United Kingdom
- Sandeep Sandhu, Executive Director, Global, Investment & Insights, UK Business Connect, Member, UK Young Academy, United Kingdom
- Mohamed Hassan, President, Sudanese National Academy of Sciences, Sudan
- Phoebe Koundouri, Athens University of Economics and Business & University of Cambridge, Chair ae4ria.org, Co-Chair UN Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR)
- Marcelo Knobel, Executive Director, The World Academy of Sciences, Italy
- Robbert Dijkgraaf, President-elect, International Science Council; Distinguished University Professor, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

19:15

Dinner at Hotel

Tuesday, 9 December

08:00	Registration and Badge Collection (All Day)
09:20 - 09:30	Opening Remarks Room: Chantelle ➔ Connect via Zoom Speaker Gianfranco Pacchioni, IAP Board Member
09:30 - 10:30	Session 2: Science Diplomacy as a Bridge for At-Risk and Displaced Scholars Room: Chantelle ➔ Connect via Zoom Moderator: Saja Al Zoubi, Dalhousie University, Canada [virtual participation] Rapporteur: Sheila Perosa, Administrative Assistant, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office Speakers • Encieh Erfani, Perimeter Institute, Canada [virtual participation] • Anne Ephrussi, French Academy of Sciences, France • Helle Porsdam, Professor of History and Cultural Rights, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 - 12:30	Session 3: Pastoralism and Grasslands: Science and Policy for Regenerative Rangeland Management Room: Chantelle ➔ Connect via Zoom Moderator: Thomas Elmqvist, Programme Director EASAC Rapporteur: Georg Berveniku-Brunner, Executive Director, EASAC secretariat Speakers • Gregorio Velasco Gil, Coordinator of the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub, FAO • Orsolya Valkó, Scientific advisor, HUN-REN Centre for Ecological Research, Institute of Ecology and Botany, Hungary • Zsolt Molnár, Doctor of MTA, Team Leader, Scientific Advisor, Traditional Ecological Knowledge Research Group, HUN-REN Centre for Ecological Research, Hungary • Joseph Moses Oleshangay, Legal and Human Rights Centre, Tanzania • Batgelder Gantuya, Mongolian Academy of Sciences, Mongolia
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch

14:00 - 15:00	Session 4: Mapping Barriers and Advancing Change for Women in Science Room: Chantelle ➡ Connect via Zoom
	Moderator: Ourania Kostj , Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office
	Rapporteur: Sheila Perosa , Administrative Assistant, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office
	Speakers • Léa Nacache, International Science Council • Palesa Sekhejane, Deputy Executive Dean, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Walter Sisulu University, South Africa • Gina El-Feky, Acting President of the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, Egypt • Ashley Bear, Director, Committee on Women in Science, Engineering and Medicine, U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, United States of America • Gloria Dubner, Co-Chair, IANAS Women for Science Program, InterAmerican Network of Academies of Sciences
15:00 - 16:00	Session 5: Unlocking Egypt's Digital Renaissance: The Revolutionary Impact of the Egyptian Knowledge Bank Room: Chantelle ➡ Connect via Zoom
	Moderator: Eng. Majid M. Al-Sadek , Director of Egyptian National STI Network, Egypt
	Rapporteur: Hala Salah El Said , Pharmaceutical Sciences
	Speakers • Gina El-Feky, Acting President of the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, Egypt • Ibrahim Mohamed, Regional Senior Director, Elsevier • Anas Ratib Alsoud, Executive Director, Association of Arab Universities [virtual participation]
16:00 - 16:30	Coffee Break

16:30 - 18:00	Session 6: Empowering Early-Career Researchers in Times of Polycrisis: Trust, Just Transition, and Resilience Through International Collaboration
	Room: Chantelle ➞ Connect via Zoom
	Moderator: Hiba Baroud , Member, Global Young Academy; Associate Professor of Civil Engineering, Vanderbilt University, United States of America
	Rapporteur: Ourania Kostj , Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office
	Speakers • Mostafa Shawrav, Chair, Marie Curie Alumni Association; former Co-Chair, EU Science Diplomacy Alliance, Austria [virtual participation] • Hervé Lekuya, Alumnus, IAP-Young Physician Leaders; Founding Member, DR Congo Young Academy of Sciences, Democratic Republic of the Congo • Aram Simonyan, Member, Global Young Academy; Associate Professor, ISEC National Academy of Sciences of Armenia, Armenia • Stella Tsani, Associate Professor, University of Athens; Member, Global Young Academy, Greece
19:00	Dinner at the hotel

Wednesday, 10 December

08:00	Registration and Badge Collection (All Day)
08:20 - 08:30	Opening Remarks Room: Chantelle ➔ Connect via Zoom Speaker Stephanie Burton, IAP Board Member
08:30 - 10:00	Session 7: Responsible and Sustainable AI for Society Room: Chantelle ➔ Connect via Zoom Moderator: Ashutosh Sharma, Indian National Science Academy, India Rapporteur: Peter McGrath, Coordinator, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office Speakers • Rohini Srivathsa, Indian National Science Academy, India • Mayank Vatsa, Indian National Science Academy, India • Surinder Singh, Australian Academy of Science, Australia • Stephanie Burton, Council Member and former Interim President of the Academy of Science, South Africa • Ramia Al Bakain, The University of Jordan, Jordan and TWAS Young Affiliate Network • Thomas Krieg, German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, Germany
10:00 - 10:30	Coffee Break
10:30 - 12:00	Session 8: Novel Discoveries and Meaning-Making: Risky and Challenging, but with a Transformative Potential Room: Chantelle ➔ Connect via Zoom Moderator: Helen Eenmaa, Estonian Young Academy of Sciences; Young Academies Science Advice Structure; Science Advice for Policy by European Academies, Estonia Rapporteur: Lucia Fanicchi, Administrative Assistant, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office Speakers • Stefan Constantinescu, Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium; Romanian Academy of Medical Sciences; Romanian Academy; Academia Europaea; Federation of European Academy of Medicine; Science Advice for Policy by European Academies, Belgium • Adel Daoud, Young Academy of Sweden, Sweden • Noel de Miranda, Young Academy of the Netherlands; Young Academy of Europe; Young Academies Science Advice Structure, Netherlands [virtual participation] • Saana Jukola, Young Academy Finland, Finland [virtual participation] • Sebastian Porsdam Mann, Assistant Professor, Center for Advanced Studies in

	Bioscience Innovation Law at the University of Copenhagen; Visiting Associate Professor, National University of Singapore, Singapore • <u>Jaak Sikk</u>, Estonian Young Academy of Sciences, Estonia • <u>Tarmo Soomere</u>, Estonian Academy of Sciences; Academia Europaea; International Science Council, Estonia • <u>Heli Valtna</u>, Estonian Young Academy of Sciences, Estonia [virtual participation]
12:00 - 13:00	Session 9: Trust in Science: A Policy Agenda for Resilient Knowledge Systems Room: Chantelle ➡ Connect via Zoom Moderator: <u>Mohamed Hassan</u>, President, Sudanese National Academy of Sciences, Sudan Rapporteur: <u>Sophia Nordt</u>, Research Associate, IAP-DC Secretariat Office Speakers • <u>Helena B. Nader</u>, President, Brazilian Academy of Sciences, Brazil [virtual participation] • <u>Karen B. Strier</u>, Co-Chair, Inter-American Network of Academies of Sciences; Member, National Academy of Sciences, United States of America • <u>Mahouton Norbert Hounkonnou</u>, President, Network of African Academy of Sciences, Benin • <u>Lise Øvreås</u>, incoming President, EASAC • <u>Francis-André Wollman</u>, Vice-President for International Affairs, Académie des Sciences, France • <u>Frances Separovic</u>, Foreign Secretary, Australian Academy of Science, Australia
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 - 16:00	Closing Session 10: Building Resilient and Collaborative Science Ecosystems: Strengthening Partnerships Across Government, Academia, Industry and Philanthropy Room: Chantelle ➡ Connect via Zoom Moderator: <u>Mark Walport</u>, Foreign Secretary and Vice-President, The Royal Society, United Kingdom Rapporteur: <u>Ourania Kosti</u>, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office Speakers • <u>Lukovi Seke</u>, Principal Program Officer, African STI Indicators, African Union Development Agency-NEPAD, African Union [virtual participation] • <u>Helen Eenmaa</u>, Estonian Young Academy of Sciences; Young Academies Science Advice Structure; Science Advice for Policy by European Academies, Estonia • <u>Ephraim Abel Kayembe</u>, former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs & Member of Parliament, Malawi • <u>Joachim von Braun</u>, President of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Vatican City

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- Carmencita D. Padilla, National Scientist, National Academy of Science and Technology; Emeritus Professor, College of Medicine, University of the Philippines, Philippines
 - Ahmed A. Alsharif, Founding Partner and CEO, Averroes Ventures, Egypt
 - Peggy Hamburg, IAP Co-President
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Special Dinner in old Cairo

17:00 Departure from Hotel by bus
18:00 free time at Khan el Khalili market
19:30 Dinner at Restaurant Saheb El Saada

Thursday, 11 December

8:30 – 9:15 **Joint Meeting of the IAP Board (Dec. 2025 – 2028) & Advisory Committee**
Room: Board Room
Attendance: by invitation only

Rapporteur: Lucia Fanicchi, Administrative Assistant, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office

9:30 – 11:00 **Remarks by Prime Minister and Distinguished Guests**
Room: Auditorium | ➞ [Connect via Zoom](#)

Speakers

- Peggy Hamburg, IAP Co-President
 - Masresha Fetene, IAP Co-President
 - Maria Michela Laroccia, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Italy, Egypt
 - Gina El-Feky, Acting President of the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, Egypt
 - Mohamed Ayman Ashour, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Egypt
 - Mostafa Kamal Madbouly, Prime Minister, Egypt
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IAP General Assembly

Attendance: Open to designated representatives of IAP members and invited observers

11:15 – 12:30 **Session 1: Administrative Updates**
Room: Summit

Rapporteur: Sabina Caris, Administrative Assistant, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office

1.1 Opening of the General Assembly

Approval of 2022 General Assembly Minutes

Three years of the “new” IAP structure — successes and opportunities for improvement (10 minutes)

Peggy Hamburg, IAP Co-President supported by Ourania Kostj, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office

1.2 Communications and outreach materials and statements (10 minutes)

Diane Negra, IAP Co-Chair supported by Peter McGrath, Coordinator, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office

1.3 Membership updates (10 minutes)

Gianfranco Pacchioni and Asma Ismail, IAP Co-Chairs supported by Ourania Kostj, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office

1.4 Secretariat updates and funding overview (10 minutes)

Peter McGrath, Coordinator, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office and Ourania Kostj, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office

1.5 Discussion with members participation (20 minutes)

Moderated by Masresha Fetene, IAP Co-President

1.6 Opportunity for a group photo (5 minutes)

12:20 – 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 – 15:30 Session 2: Programmatic Updates
Room: Summit

Rapporteur: Sheila Perosa, Administrative Assistant, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office

2.1 Completed and ongoing studies and programs (15 min)

Ourania Kostj, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office, Peter McGrath, Coordinator, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office with video contributions from Jo Boufford, Urban Health and Well-Being; Ljupco Gjorgjinski, Biosecurity Working Group; Carol O'Donnell, Science Education Programme; Young Physician Leaders

2.2 The importance of horizon scanning for future priorities (10 min)

Stephanie Burton, IAP Co-Chair with support from Ourania Kostj, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office

2.3 Small Grants Programme: outcomes and reflections (15 min)

Ourania Kostj, Executive Director, IAP-DC Secretariat Office and Peter McGrath, Coordinator, IAP-Trieste Secretariat Office with video contributions from Tereza Szybisty, Czech Academy of Sciences, Costas Papanicolas, Cyprus Academy of Sciences, Letters, and Arts, and in person contribution by Mark Wuddivira, Caribbean Academy of Sciences

2.4 Reports from Regional Networks (40 min)

- Ahmet Nuri Yurdusev, President of AASSA, Association of Academies and Societies of Sciences in Asia
- Lise Øvreås, incoming Preseident of EASAC, European Academies' Science Advisory Council
- Mahouton Norbert Hounkonnou, President of NASAC, Network of African Science Academies
- Karen Strier, Co-Chair of IANAS, Inter-American Network of Academies of Sciences

2.5 Discussion with members participation (40 minutes)

15:30 -16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 – 17:25 Session 3: Strategic Discussion and Future Direction
Room: Summit

Rapporteur: Sophia Nordt, Research Associate, IAP-DC Secretariat Office

3.1 IAP's most pressing opportunities and challenges (40 min)

Moderator: Gianfranco Pacchioni, IAP Co-Chair

Panelists

- Marileen Dogterom, Royal Netherland Academy of Arts and Sciences, Netherlands
- Gina El-Feky, Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, Egypt (tbc)
- Marcelo Knobel, The World Academy of Sciences
- Anil Kumar Tripathi, Vice President, Science Promotion, Indian National Science Academy (INSA), Director, IISER, Mohali, India
- Francis-Andre Wollman, Académie des sciences, France

3.2 Enhancing engagement and visibility (40 min)

Moderator: Diane Negra, IAP Co-Chair

Panelists

- Marcos Cortesao Barnsley Scheuenstuhl, Brazilian Academy of Science, Brazil
- Jackie Kado, Network of African Science Academies
- Ruth Narmann, German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, Germany
- Frances Separovic, Australian Academy of Science, Australia

17:25	Closing of the IAP General Assembly and Handover to New Leadership (5 min) Room: Summit
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Closing remarks and acknowledgments
Handover to new leadership

Masresha Fetene, IAP Co-President

17:30	Adjourn Room: Summit
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Closing Gala Dinner at Citadel of Cairo

19:15	Departure from hotel by bus
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Description of Sessions and Side Events

Side Event 1: For People, For Planet: Environmentally Sustainable Health Research

The health research sector is resource and energy intensive; clinical trials contribute millions of tonnes of CO₂ per year globally, laboratories are environmentally intensive to operate, and computational research has a sizeable carbon footprint. As a sector striving to improve the health of populations, the health research sector must lead the way in efforts to improve the health of our planet. This session will present the findings of a policy paper on building environmental sustainability into the health research systems in the UK and the US. This includes actions to be taken by stakeholders at all levels, focusing on alignment, collaboration and working in synergy. The findings are the work of 16 interdisciplinary future research leaders nominated by the UK Academy of Medical Sciences and the US National Academy of Medicine to participate in a joint policy initiative. The initiative aimed to raise new voices on climate change and health and to bridge the gap between science and policy.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Side Event 2: From Metrics to Meaning: How Reforming Research Assessment Drives Innovation, Impact, and Trust in Science

Traditional research assessment systems, dominated by publication metrics such as h-index and journal impact factor, risk narrowing the definition of excellence and undervaluing legitimate contributions from the research community that advance science and society. This over-reliance on bibliometrics creates a perverse system of academic incentives, and has fueled questionable research ethics, paper mills, and a reproducibility crisis – all of which not only impact the quality of research, but, perhaps more importantly, undermine the credibility and social relevance of science. In recognition of the need for reform, emerging initiatives such as the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA) are driving a bottom-up transformation of research cultures by promoting more holistic, responsible, and qualitative evaluation criteria that go beyond publication counts and recognise the wide range of activities undertaken by the researchers, including teaching, science communication, peer reviewing, etc. The objective of CoARA is to (re)build evaluation systems that reward transparency, integrity, and impact in science. In this session, panellists will explore how research assessment can be redesigned and reformed to incentivise research excellence and socially impactful research – and thereby foster greater public trust in science.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Side Event 3: Science Diplomacy in the AI Era: Bridging Disciplines, Borders and Generations

In an era of global transformation, science diplomacy has emerged as a critical conduit for international collaboration, trust-building and responsible innovation, particularly in the context of the rise of artificial intelligence (AI). This panel comprises distinguished scholars from diverse fields of the

scientific and academic ecosystem, including the President of Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA) as moderator, the President of the Association of Academies and Societies of Sciences in Asia (AASSA), who represents multilateral scientific collaboration in Asia, a globally recognized TÜBA member AI scholar and the representative from the Turkish Young Academy, who embodies the voice of the next academic generation. The panel will explore the potential of AI to enhance and challenge science diplomacy and governance, as well as its responsible use among young scientists, through interdisciplinary domain. The themes explored in this text include the development of ethical AI, the promotion of equitable global access to scientific knowledge, the navigation of misinformation and the role of science in maintaining unity in the face of political and technological fragmentation. The session will draw on insights from diverse fields to foster a values-driven vision of science diplomacy that is inclusive, forward-looking and equipped to navigate disruption.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Side Event 4: IAP Young Affiliates Engagement

Recognizing the critical role of emerging scientific leaders in shaping the future of global science, IAP introduced a new affiliation category for Young Affiliates in 2025. This includes young academies and cohort-based early-career leadership programs in science, engineering, and medicine. This side event is designed as an interactive space for Young Affiliates to:

- Connect with one another and strengthen peer networks across regions and disciplines.
- Share perspectives on how affiliation with IAP can support the growth and visibility of young academies.
- Explore opportunities to contribute to IAP's broader mission and activities, including policy, outreach, and capacity-building initiatives.

Whether your academy is newly established or already well-connected, this session is an opportunity to shape how young voices are represented within the global scientific community.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Side Event 5: IAP Horizon Scanning Exercise

Using a structured horizon scanning approach, participants will examine near- and long-term issues that demand collective scientific action. Insights from the session will help shape IAP's future strategic direction, inform programme development and guide collaborative efforts across the network. To support an inclusive and impactful dialogue, member academies are encouraged to submit input in advance. Participants will be able to propose topics spontaneously during the session.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Side Event 6: IAP Secretariat and Regional Networks Staff Meeting

This closed working session brings together staff from the IAP Secretariat and its four Regional Networks—Africa, the Americas, Asia/Pacific, and Europe—to strengthen coordination and collaboration across the global network. The meeting will provide space to share updates on ongoing and upcoming initiatives, discuss operational challenges and best practices, and identify opportunities for alignment, joint programming, and improved communication. This session aims to enhance the effectiveness and coherence of IAP’s work by fostering closer connections among those supporting its core functions at both the global and regional levels.

Attendance: *IAP Secretariat and Regional Network staff*

Plenary Speech: Bridging Science, Policy and Society in an Era of Transformation

This keynote session will feature Dr. Ismail Serageldin, Founding Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and former Vice President of the World Bank, who will draw on his extensive international experience to explore how major institutions can bridge research, policy, and society. Through reflections on a career dedicated to knowledge, development, and innovation, the session will examine the role of institutional leadership in advancing science for societal progress. It will also address how academies and scientific organizations must adapt to rapid technological, environmental, and social change. Grounded in Dr. Serageldin’s dual perspective as an Egyptian and global leader, the discussion will highlight the power of local identity, global collaboration, and service beyond traditional academic boundaries in shaping a more responsive and trusted scientific enterprise.

Plenary Session 1: Science Academies and Science Diplomacy in a Tumultuous World

The concept of science diplomacy has undergone a major re-examination in 2025, as the world grows more dangerous and a number of threats to science multiply. Science diplomacy is practiced by a wider number and range of global actors than ever before, from sub-national entities like cities and states to international organisations to industry, in particular global technology companies. Yet at the same time, the science that underpins it is under attack from ideological agendas, financial pressures, online misinformation and polarised politics. Science academies have a unique vantage point, as they are often well-established institutions which can take a long-term perspective, but at the same time are vulnerable to attacks on perceived elites or scientific consensus. How can science academies best navigate the new landscape of science diplomacy, and most effectively utilise it to safeguard the interests of science and contribute to a more resilient global science system?

Attendance: *Open to All*

Session 2: Science Diplomacy as a Bridge for At-Risk and Displaced Scholars

This panel explores how science diplomacy can support scholars at risk due to conflict, persecution or displacement. As global crises increasingly disrupt academic communities, science diplomacy provides

a crucial, non-political means to preserve knowledge, defend academic freedom and build international solidarity. Through fellowships, institutional partnerships and advocacy, it offers displaced scholars opportunities to continue their work and contribute to global scientific challenges. The discussion will highlight science diplomacy as both a humanitarian and strategic tool, showcasing best practices from global initiatives and institutions that support at-risk academics. It will examine the roles of international organizations, universities and governments in fostering inclusion and protection. Emphasis will be placed on the lived experiences, agency and contributions of displaced scholars themselves. The panel will also spotlight the Global Young Academy's At-Risk Scholars Initiative and its efforts to integrate displaced scholars into international research networks while defending academic freedom under threat.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Session 3: Pastoralism and Grasslands: Science and Policy for Regenerative Rangeland Management

The UN General Assembly has declared 2026 the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) to increase worldwide understanding of the value of grasslands and pastoralism for food security, economy, environment and cultural heritage. Semi-natural grasslands are among the most species-rich ecosystems on Earth, offering a unique example of how long-term, low-intensity human activities can enhance biodiversity.

Their ecological value is closely tied to traditional management practices, such as grazing and mowing, which help maintain their open structure and biodiversity. Steppes and other drylands also harbour outstanding biodiversity that is shaped by the herders and the one billion people living in these ecosystems globally. Today, grasslands are rapidly disappearing in many regions of the world, due to climate change in combination with land use changes including abandonment that leads to secondary succession toward shrubs or forests, or, through intensification (use of fertilizers, frequent mowing, or sowing monocultures) causing biodiversity loss. This session will contribute to the aims of the IYRP and through taking a global view of grasslands and focussing on how to bring multiple knowledge systems together at the table to discuss what policy options and actions are available in different regions for reversing current trends.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Session 4: Mapping Barriers and Advancing Change for Women in Science

Globally, 33 percent of researchers are female, yet women only comprise 12 percent of science academy members. The InterAcademy Partnership and its members have long championed the inclusion and participation of women in science. IAP continues this work through a series of initiatives focusing on identifying barriers facing women in science. These initiatives include a global workshop on assessing and addressing sexual harassment of women in academia and partnering with the International Science Council and the Standing Committee for Gender Equality in Science to update

the landmark 2016 IAP survey on the participation of women in scientific organisations. This session will discuss the impacts and challenges identified through these initiatives, present the preliminary results from the global gender survey, highlight ongoing work by IAP members and regional networks and propose possible approaches to prevent gender discrimination in academia.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Session 5: Unlocking Egypt's Digital Renaissance: The Revolutionary Impact of the Egyptian Knowledge Bank

The talk discusses in detail the transformative impact of the Egyptian Knowledge Bank (EKB) on Egypt's digital renaissance. As a cornerstone of national development, the EKB aims to democratise access to global knowledge resources, reshaping educational, research and innovation landscapes across the country. It explores the strategic vision behind the EKB, highlighting its role in providing students, educators, researchers and the public with access to scientific journals, academic publications, multimedia resources and educational tools from leading international publishers. By fostering lifelong learning, enhancing research capabilities and stimulating innovation, the EKB bridges knowledge gaps and promotes equitable access to information. The presentation also illustrates how the EKB functions as a dynamic catalyst for intellectual and socio-economic advancement, contributing to the development of a knowledge-based economy, a digitally proficient workforce and Egypt's trajectory toward a technology-driven, innovation-focused future.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Session 6: Empowering Early-Career Researchers in Times of Polycrisis: Trust, Just Transition, and Resilience Through International Collaboration

The world is navigating a complex web of interconnected crises: climate change, social inequality, environmental degradation, public health challenges and geopolitical instability. In this era of transformation, international collaboration among members of young academies (YAs) and global science associations plays a crucial role in promoting trust and resilience among early-career researchers (ECRs). These collaborative networks facilitate the exchange of best practices, provide mutual support and empower young scientists to navigate systemic challenges while contributing meaningfully to global science systems. This session will highlight concrete case studies where YAs have collectively addressed barriers faced by ECRs through joint initiatives. It will focus on how such efforts foster a culture of resilience and credibility in science — particularly in contexts where systemic support is limited. Additionally, this session will explore how co-production of knowledge by engaging scientists, policymakers and civil society actors can generate inclusive, actionable solutions for a just and sustainable transition.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Session 7: Responsible and Sustainable AI for Society

The session will explore ethical and sustainable governance of emerging technologies, particularly AI, digital platforms, biotechnologies, and genetic engineering. While these innovations offer significant opportunities for growth and wellbeing, they also raise urgent ethical, social, and environmental concerns—especially in regions with evolving policy frameworks. Speakers from diverse regions and institutions will share case studies, highlighting how technological advances align or conflict with local values, economic priorities, and sustainability goals. The discussion will generate actionable recommendations for science academies, policymakers, and stakeholders, aiming to strengthen global partnerships, build capacities, and guide responsible research and deployment. Expected outputs include a policy brief, white paper, and report, contributing to IAP's future agenda and fostering international cooperation in science and technology policy.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Session 8: Novel Discoveries and Meaning-Making: Risky and Challenging, but with a Transformative Potential

In an era marked by rapid technological advancement, shifting political climates and evolving academic structures, the question of how to foster and evaluate novel scientific discoveries and meaning-making around them has become urgent. Ultimately, science advances not through papers or grants, but through real discoveries. While knowledge creation entails risk and failure, it can also shift scientific paradigms and transform societal and research-related structures. In this session, we explore the nature and value of novelty in scientific research—highlighting its importance, potential, systemic constraints and the timeliness of evolving discourse on these. We focus on three topics. (1) Novelty and technological change. We begin by examining how technology acts as an amplifier, enabling ground-breaking discoveries while reinforcing echo chambers and incentivising mediocrity. This duality prompts reflection on the structural conditions shaping scientific progress. (2) Novelty and challenges to academic freedom. Next, we address growing pressures on academic freedom. Political trends focused on short-term goals and marginalising high-risk research threaten discovery, often prioritising conformity over challenges to established paradigms. (3) Novelty and young scholars' career paths, research funding and evaluations. Finally, we consider academic career structures and evaluation metrics—especially for early-career researchers—which rarely reward curiosity-driven exploration, instead favouring predictable outcomes. We examine how research funding models support or neglect high-risk proposals, thereby influencing breakthroughs. Drawing on philosophy of science and social epistemology, this session invites participants to consider how to support novelty in science—not only in funding and evaluation, but also in defining success and excellence, valuing diverse outputs and justifying unequal opportunities to pursue risky ideas.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Session 9: Trust in Science: A Policy Agenda for Resilient Knowledge Systems

Political polarisation and widespread misinformation are undermining public trust in science at an alarming pace. This is happening at a time when the need for science-based solutions to ensure the future of humanity and the planet's biodiversity has never been greater. The most existential threats, such as climate change and food insecurity, are global in nature, yet the development and implementation of cooperative international responses are being severely impeded by the spread of nationalism, xenophobia and isolationism, which are also antithetical to democracy. Our panellists, who represent Regional Networks or Science Academies across five continents, will bring their expertise spanning the physical, biological and social sciences to address solutions to the challenge of rebuilding trust in the scientific enterprise at local, regional, and global scales. Each panellist will give a brief presentation and then discuss points of convergence and a roadmap for next steps.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Session 10: Building Resilient and Collaborative Science Ecosystems: Strengthening Partnerships Across Government, Academia, Industry and Philanthropy

Building resilient, inclusive and future-ready science ecosystems requires deliberate collaboration across sectors, including bringing together government, academia, industry and philanthropy to co-design research agendas, share risk and align investment with societal needs. This session brings together leaders from across these domains to explore how structured, trust-based platforms for cross-sectoral collaboration can be designed and sustained. It aims to address questions such as: How can science academies act as effective conveners of cross-sector partnerships? How can persistent barriers to coordination between public, private, and academic institutions—such as misaligned incentives, limited communication or lack of trust—be effectively addressed? The discussion will also explore existing models within academies for engaging government, industry and philanthropy and will examine what insights can be drawn from these approaches to guide others seeking to strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration.

Attendance: *Open to All*

Code of Conduct

All participants of IAP events or IAP-sponsored activities are required to conform to the IAP Code of Conduct as well as the Code of Conduct of their own institutions. All reports of misconduct will be taken seriously by IAP, investigated, and appropriate remedial action will be taken. IAP reserves the right to remove an individual from the event or activity without warning or refund, prohibit attendance at future IAP meetings, and notify the individual's employer/institution. Read the complete IAP Code of Conduct [here](#).

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